

What is claimed is:

1. A tuning circuit comprising:

a semiconductor substrate, which comprises a plurality of semiconductor switches, a plurality of first capacitors, 5 connected each in series with said plurality of semiconductor switches, and switch controlling means for controlling opening and closing of the semiconductor switches; and

a coil connected in parallel to said plurality of first capacitors,

10 wherein the total electrostatic capacitance of said plurality of first capacitors is varied by said switching controlling means individually controlling said opening and closing said plurality of semiconductor switches connected to said plurality of first capacitors, in accordance with a 15 received station selection signal of a standard radio wave that includes time information, so as to vary a tuned frequency of a tuning circuit formed by said plurality of first capacitors and said coil.

2. A tuning circuit according to claim 1, further 20 comprising, either on said semiconductor substrate or outside said semiconductor substrate, a second capacitor, which has either a fixed capacitance or a variable capacitance, and which is connected to said coil in parallel with said group of first capacitors.

25 3. A tuning circuit according to claim 2, wherein said second capacitor is subjected to control that differs from the control to which said first capacitors are subjected.

30 4. A tuning circuit according to either claim 2 or claim 3, wherein at least one of said second capacitances is controlled by said switch controlling means via said semiconductor switch provided on said semiconductor substrate.

35 5. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 4, which is used, including an antenna, within a metal exterior part made of a metallic material.

6. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 5, wherein an on resistance of each of said

semiconductor switches is smaller than an impedance of each of said first capacitors connected in series with each said semiconductor switch.

7. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 5, wherein an off resistance of each of said semiconductor switches is larger than an impedance of each of said first capacitors connected in series with each said semiconductor switch.

8. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 7, wherein a resistance value of a resistance part used in an amplifier circuit connected to a receiving circuit is set so as to be larger than an impedance of a tuning capacitor provided in said tuning circuit.

9. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 7, wherein a resistance value of a resistance part used in an amplifier circuit connected to a receiving circuit is set so as to be larger than an impedance of a capacitor connected in series with said resistance part used in said amplifier circuit.

20 10. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 9, wherein the total value of individual electrostatic capacitances of each of said plurality of first capacitors is 9600 pF or lower.

25 11. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 10, wherein an inductance value of said coil is 0.44 mH or greater.

12. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 10, wherein an inductance value of said coil is 4000 mH or smaller.

30 13. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 12, wherein a tuned frequency in said tuning circuit is determined by a first electrostatic capacitance set by a group of said first capacitors and a second electrostatic capacitance of said second capacitor.

35 14. A tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through claim 13, wherein said electrostatic capacitance of

said second capacitor is larger than that of said first capacitor.

15. A radio-controlled timepiece comprising:

a tuning circuit according to any one of claim 1 through
5 claim 13;

a control means, which controls said tuning circuit, and
which has a receiving circuit, which inputs a standard radio
wave received by said tuning circuit and performs time
correction; and

10 a display means, which displays time information from
said control means.

16. A radio-controlled timepiece according to claim 15,
further comprising a metal exterior part made of a metallic
material, which covers said tuning circuit, said control means,
15 and said display means so as to protect them mechanically.

17. A radio-controlled timepiece according to claim 14,
wherein an inductance of said coil of said tuning circuit
covered by said metal exterior part is 20 mH or greater.

18. A radio-controlled timepiece according to any one of
20 claim 15 through claim 17, wherein, by controlling the opening
and closing of said plurality of semiconductor switches of
said tuning circuit so as to vary said tuned frequency, it is
possible to selectively receive any of a plurality of standard
radio waves.

25 19. A radio-controlled timepiece according to any one of
claim 15 through claim 18, further comprising a tuning control
information storage means for storing tuning control
information for the purpose of varying said tuned frequency of
said tuning circuit.

30 20. A radio-controlled timepiece according to claim 19,
wherein said tuning control information storage means is
provided within said tuning circuit.

35 21. A radio-controlled timepiece according to either
claim 19 or claim 20, wherein said tuning control information
storage means is formed by one selected from the group

consisting of a pattern-cutting means, a fuse ROM, and a non-volatile memory.

22. A radio-controlled timepiece according to any one of claim 15 through claim 21, comprising a test mode, whereby it
5 is possible to change a tuned frequency by an external operating means provided outside said radio-controlled timepiece.

23. A radio-controlled timepiece according to claim 22, wherein said external operating means includes a non-contact
10 operating method.

24. A according to claim 23, wherein said non-contact operating method uses radio or infrared.